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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE

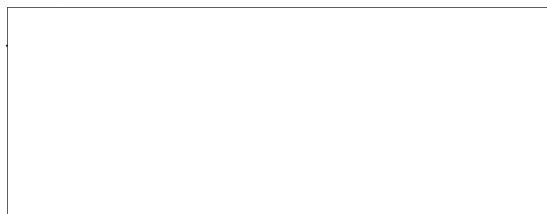
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

Serial: M5-0001-83  
5 January 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, DCI SECURITY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Unauthorized Disclosures

Attached memoranda are provided in accordance with your request for specific guidance on the implementation of my recommendation to you (Serial: M5/0058/82, 16 Jul 1982) for the distribution of the SOIC letters to all SIGINT users. Recommend Mr. Casey send Attachment A to all NFIB members. This would transmit Attachment B and thereby implement distribution to all recipients of SIGINT.



STAT

PL 86-36

Encl:  
a/s

This correspondence may be  
declassified upon removal of the  
inclosures.

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ATTACHMENT A



**NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE**

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

Serial:

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE  
BOARD (NFIB) MEMBERS**

**SUBJECT: Security Advisory to Recipients of United States  
Signals Intelligence**

1. In furtherance of the NFIB decision of 8 June 1982, the attached letter has been drafted for Senior Officials of the Intelligence Community (SOIC's) to provide to SIGINT recipients of their own respective organizations. Each SOIC may, of course, modify the letter as appropriate; the principal point is the expression of concern about recent disclosures, and the reaffirmation of the sensitivity and fragility of Signals Intelligence sources and methods.

2. I believe that maximum utility will be achieved by requiring recipients' signatures acknowledging their understanding, as indicated at the end of the letter. The importance of this action will be reinforced by requiring that the signed letter be returned to a single office within your organization to insure that everyone in your agency with SIGINT access has received, read, and signed the letter.

3. I urge all SOICs to distribute these letters as soon as possible.

**WILLIAM J. CASEY**  
Director of Central Intelligence

Encl:  
a/s

This correspondence may be  
declassified upon removal of the  
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**HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY**

ATTACHMENT B

**SECRET**

**NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE  
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755**

Serial:

MEMORANDUM FOR SIGINT RECIPIENTS OF \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of SOIC's Agency)

SUBJECT: Unauthorized Disclosure of Signals Intelligence (U)

1. (S-CCO) You are being provided this letter by reason of your access to, and actual receipt of, classified Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) produced by the National Security Agency (NSA) through its interception and decipherment of communications of foreign intelligence interest. You may receive such SIGINT either directly from NSA or in intelligence dissemination by other agencies. Every recipient of this letter has been cleared for access to TOP SECRET Codeword information; every recipient receives highly classified foreign intelligence, including SIGINT; the United States has placed the highest confidence and trust possible in every recipient. I regret to have to advise you that some recipients appear to have violated this trust by improperly disclosing to persons in the news media information revealing current, successful United States SIGINT activities, including, in one instance, an actual deciphered message text.

2. (S-CCO) It is important that all users understand the fragility of SIGINT, the ease with which countermeasures can be devised, and the serious consequences which can follow from such disclosures, even inadvertent or well-intentioned disclosures which may seem innocuous. Neither the text of messages nor the fact of decryption need to be disclosed in order to endanger NSA's abilities; virtually any release of SIGINT-derived or related information, including even sanitized disclosures, permits foreign states to draw conclusions concerning our targets, capabilities and techniques. We are aware from SIGINT that the recent unauthorized disclosures have been so analyzed by foreign nationals. Without going into detail, my conclusion is that the leaks have endangered the United States SIGINT system, a priceless national resource, and have raised fundamental questions about our continued ability to collect and disseminate SIGINT.

3. (U) While the security of SIGINT is protected by various statutes, (18 U.S.C., 793 and 798 among them) the utility of other measures, including administrative sanctions, should not be ignored. The basic protection for SIGINT, however, must be the prudence and legality of those persons provided access. The purpose of this letter is to remind you of these facts.

4. (U) I am taking this extreme measure in consonance with SOICs throughout the Intelligence Community, to stress the unprecedented

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seriousness of my concern. I request that each recipient of this memorandum seriously consider the potential adverse impact that unauthorized disclosures have upon the security of the United States. All individuals within their respective organizations who receive SIGINT, in any form, will receive a letter such as this with the requirement that recipients acknowledge by signature their understanding of the concerns expressed herein. After you have signed this letter, return it by appropriate security channels to (name of an individual within the SOIC's agency).

(Signature)

(Organization SOIC)

(Signature of SIGINT recipient)